



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 296

January Session, 2001

Substitute Senate Bill No. 175

Senate, April 17, 2001

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARP of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (c) of section 20-195bb of the general statutes is repealed
2 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (c) No license as a professional counselor shall be required of the
4 following: (1) A person who furnishes uncompensated assistance in an
5 emergency; (2) a clergyman, priest, minister, rabbi or practitioner of
6 any religious denomination accredited by the religious body to which
7 the person belongs and settled in the work of the ministry, provided
8 the activities that would otherwise require a license as a professional
9 counselor are within the scope of ministerial duties; (3) a sexual assault
10 counselor, as defined in section 52-146k; (4) a person participating in
11 uncompensated group or individual counseling, including a person
12 who furnishes such uncompensated counseling as a volunteer for a
13 charitable organization, regardless of whether the charitable

14 organization receives any voluntary donation at the time of or
15 subsequent to such counseling; (5) a person licensed or certified by any
16 agency of this state and performing services within the scope of
17 practice for which licensed or certified; (6) a student, intern or trainee
18 pursuing a course of study in counseling in a regionally accredited
19 institution of higher education, provided the activities that would
20 otherwise require a license as a professional counselor are performed
21 under supervision and constitute a part of a supervised course of
22 study; (7) a person employed by an institution of higher education to
23 provide academic counseling in conjunction with the institution's
24 programs and services; or (8) a vocational rehabilitation counselor, job
25 counselor, credit counselor, consumer counselor or any other
26 counselor or psychoanalyst who does not purport to be a counselor
27 whose primary service is the application of established principles of
28 psycho-social development and behavioral science to the evaluation,
29 assessment, analysis and treatment of emotional, behavioral or
30 interpersonal dysfunction or difficulties that interfere with mental
31 health and human development.

PH **JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST.**

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Affected Agencies: Department of Public Health

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation**State Impact:**

Since persons who furnish uncompensated counseling as volunteers for charitable organizations are not currently subject to licensure requirements, no fiscal impact will result from explicitly exempting from licensure those that work with organizations that receive voluntary donations.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 175

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS.

SUMMARY:

By law, anyone performing uncompensated group or individual counseling does not need a license as a professional counselor. This bill specifies that uncompensated counseling includes a person providing such counseling as a volunteer for a charitable organization, regardless of whether the organization receives a voluntary donation in conjunction with the counseling.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 2